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Spirits to be genuine only, when  
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## A. S. WATSON &amp; CO., LIMITED,

QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL. 29

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All letters for publication should be written on one  
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No personally signed communications that have  
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Telegraphic Address: P.A.S.A. G.O.C.  
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## The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, April 4th, 1909.

WHAT may be looked on as an interesting  
declaration of attitude was set forth recently  
by a Japanese Liberal organ, the *Imperial*,  
in an article dealing with the steady in-  
crease of Russian forces in the Far East.

The *Imperial* is disposed to believe that Rus-  
sia's activity is the outcome of a misconception  
on her part about Japan's expansion of  
armament since the war, the object of which is  
"strictly defensive"; and regrets that the  
military produce of both Japan and Russia

has produced a deep-seated impression  
in the minds of other nations that a  
conflict between the two powers is inevitable

—an impression which predisposes the out-  
side world to talk of a war "even in connection  
with trifling causes like the Masamico  
incident." These words were written, of  
course, before the announcement that Russia  
was pressing for a concession at this place.

It may well turn out that Japan will not  
look upon the Masamico incident as so trif-  
fling. And it must be remembered that there  
has been a succession of incidents during  
the last few months, all tending to increase  
that bitter feeling between the two countries  
which was one of Japan's chief  
inheritances from the war with China.

Lately we have seen the Siberian and  
Faghalon fishery question, and the threatened  
Japanese reprisals in the shape of a heavy  
duty on all Russian fish; the Russian tax of  
1,000 yen per annum on all godowns used for  
storing imported tea, a measure aimed at  
Japanese firms mainly, and numerous little  
acts in Corea, such as the appointment of  
a Russian successor to Mr. GREATTHORPE,  
the retiring adviser, the Russian loan, the  
first Masamico affair, coupled with the visit  
of the Russian Naval Commander-in-Chief  
to Seoul, and the reported attempt to in-  
duce Corea to discriminate in favour of  
Russian imports.

None of these incidents alone, it is true,  
would furnish a reasonable ground for  
that disturbance of the peace of the Far  
East which has been discussed already; it  
is to be feared, ad nesciam by the papers.

The Governments of both Russia and Japan  
have done their utmost to check such

talk, both by semi-official denials of the  
various rumours and by studious reticence  
on all points of intended policy. It is  
only natural that neither Russia nor  
Japan should wish to show her hand. But  
in the question of Corea, Japan is moved as  
much by sentiment as by motives of in-  
terest, and a national sentiment cannot be  
lightly disregarded. As *The Japan Gazette*  
wrote recently, "considering that, only six

years ago, Japan went to war with China,  
principally over that Empire's inter-  
ference in the peninsula, it is not likely  
that this nation, whose cradle, it may  
almost be said, was Corea, and whose  
earliest traditions are indissolubly mixed  
up with that little Kingdom, will allow  
Russia to continue much longer in the  
path of establishing what is practically a  
protectorate over the whole of Corea."

Much depends on the exact facts of the  
Russian demand whether the *Imperial's* re-  
marks should be called unduly optimistic.  
That journal very rightly points out that the  
interests of the two nations are not necessarily  
antagonistic to each other; but, on the  
contrary, Japan and Russia are mutually in-  
terested in the development of the Pacific  
trade, and the opening up of the vast re-  
sources of Siberia and other Russian dominions  
in Eastern Asia will be materially  
facilitated by the friendly co-operation of  
Japan. The sole obstacle to this is  
the Corean problem, and to this the *Imperial's*  
only solution which, in the *Imperial's* opinion,  
will satisfy Japan will be the complete  
withdrawal of Russian political influence  
from the peninsula, in return for which  
Japan's entire abstention from interference  
with Russian activity in Northern China.  
The Japanese attitude in the matter may be  
summed up in the following words, which  
appeared in the *Japan Times*:—"In claim-  
ing the Corean peninsula for our sphere of  
influence and interest, we are only obeying  
the irresistible impulse of self-preservation;  
as well as following the obvious logic of  
facts and history. It cannot be insisted  
on too strongly or too frequently that our  
representatives in that quarter are strictly de-  
fensive and peaceful; nothing is further  
from our idea than to employ Corea as a  
stepping-stone for checking the natural  
and legitimate growth of Russian influence  
to the north and west of it."

Until we hear details of Russian communica-  
tion to Corea in the matter of Masamico,  
about which we have at present nothing  
beyond the bare fact announced by Reuter's  
message, speculation on the course of future  
events can hardly serve any useful end.  
The question to which we await the answer  
is, Has Russia shown her hand?

The *Straits Times* says that \$18,000 has been  
won by an English clerk in Singapore from  
the Macao lottery.

Our recent visitors, the Dallas Musical and  
Dramatic Company, open to-night at the Zorilla  
Theatre, Manila, starting, as here, with *Zoro  
Geisha*.

In our notice of the Bellilio Trust Prize  
Distribution Monday last the name of the  
First prize winner at St. Joseph's College  
should have been Andrew Hahn.

We understand that H.E. Admiral Sir  
Edward H. Seymour will leave probably  
to-morrow in H.M.S. *Alacrity* for the  
northern naval station Weihsien on the way up  
to Kowloon, when he saw the *Evening Star*

This morning at 11 A.M. His Excellency the  
Governor left Murray Pier to join the *Evening Star*  
at the pier which starts from Hongkong  
to-day for Shanghai. In the course of his  
three months' holiday, His Excellency, after  
leaving Shanghai, may visit Peking before  
going to Japan, which is his ultimate object.

It is advertised that in consequence of the  
weather the Royal Artillery Barracks and  
Sports have been postponed to the 5th and 6th  
inst. The 5th will be run on Thursday  
afternoon, and the final will take place on Friday  
morning, commencing at 11.30, when the  
Band of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers will attend.

Dr. F. C. Riedel, the German Consul, is  
leaving Hongkong on Friday next to take  
charge of the German Consulate at Manila  
during the three months' absence of the  
Consul. The Consul departs by the  
*Sundaland*. During his stay at Manila the  
German business will be dealt with by the  
German Consul at Canton, Herr Kullen, who arrived in  
Canton a fortnight ago.

An old Hongkong official has passed away in  
the person of J. J. Cleverley, who died at his  
residence, West Point, at a ripe age.  
Deceased was formerly an inspector in the  
Sanitary Department and retired on pension  
in consequence of ill-health. He was a  
member of the United Service Lodge, and  
the military service was held for him in the  
Cathedral.

The annual lawn-tennis match between  
the R.C.C. and the H.K.C.C. will be played  
to-day (Wednesday), on the Cricket Ground,  
the Bank of Hongkong grass set for play an  
evening will be held round in the forenoon.  
The courts are the known—L.R.C., Langham,  
Finchley, Griffin, St. John, Potts, Slade,  
H.K.C.C., Fairlie, Dyson, Cox, Andrew, Wal-  
ton, Hallifax.

It is stated by a Manila contemporary that  
"Admiral Watson, who sailed for Hongkong  
in the *Brooklyn*, will arrive in Manila  
in time to take command of the *Admiral Watson*,  
which is to assume the command now held by  
Admiral Watson, will come to Manila with  
Admiral Watson on board, will cruise leisurely by  
way of the Suez Canal. A number of stops  
will be made in Europe, and it is said that  
Admiral Watson will visit the Paris Exposition  
before returning to the United States.

Bridge polo seems to have caught on in Singa-  
pore, according to the local papers, but vari-  
ety of the game being seen. The game in  
which the ball is propelled with the usual  
rule of the polo stick, is the most popular  
variety, and it is said that the game is  
now being played in the *Brooklyn*.

The other form" says *The Singapore Free  
Press*, "in which the ball is struck by a mallet  
is very much the real polo, and it is com-  
mon that the player will take the ball in  
his hand and control the pony. Still, in  
this case, it has established itself in  
the *Brooklyn*, in Tanjong, a clock, a tennis ball  
and a lawn being the only stock-in-trade the  
ponies.

In this case the Hon. E. R. Bellilio, C.M.G.,  
claims from the Bank of China and the  
Bank of Manchuria, and Shanghai, 200  
thousand dollars to be paid to him  
being given him in trust for the said  
Bank. The said 200 thousand dollars  
will be paid to the plaintiff in respect of the  
plaintiff's claim in respect of the said  
defendant.

The plaintiff also claimed that an ac-  
count might be taken of the amount due by  
the plaintiff in respect of such shares, and that on  
payment by the plaintiff of the amount found  
on the taking of such account the defen-  
dants must be ordered to deliver the said 200  
shares to the plaintiff, and the plaintiff also  
claimed the costs of suit.

At the meeting of the R.A.O.B. held on the  
20th ultime, the following officers were elected  
for the ensuing year and month:

S. P. .... Primo Roberts  
C. .... Bro. Burnett  
C. Const. .... Dargell  
C. Chamb. .... Madar  
C. Courier .... Couro  
C. Register .... Bowman  
C. Secretary .... Hopkins  
C. Treasurer .... Blane  
Primo Roberts ..... Howlett  
C. Pastoral Leader ..... Howard  
C. Minister ..... Primo Roberts  
C. Pastoral Leader ..... Bro. Burnett  
C. Waiter ..... Acting C. Waiter  
C. Waiter ..... Kelton

A very pleasant evening was spent after the  
conclusion of the business, the Brothers con-  
tributing to the harmony on this occasion being  
Brothers Hart, Shimura, Burrell, George and  
Jenner.

In consequence of the recent fire on the  
West River at Tsimshau and a torpedo-boat have  
been ordered to leave for the scene of the  
occurrence.

On Monday afternoon a Chinaman was work-  
ing on a new building at Lok On, on the other  
site of Hung Hom, when he fell off a scaffolding  
and was killed.

The Rev. German Waiter George Albert  
was beaten for public inspection yesterday. The  
waiter, however, was unbroken, many people  
from visiting themselves of the privilege.

It may be noted, so far as we can judge, says  
*The Pinang Gazette*, that the colony down to the  
present time has lost \$24,363.68 in securities  
in connection with Government paper currency.

A wooden play at Yau Ma Tei, the property of  
the Government, was put up for competition  
by Mr. G. J. W. King, of the Public Works  
Department, and was let to Messrs. Lauts, Wegener and Co. for \$105 a  
month.

A Dutch telegram from the Marquess on the  
22nd ult. stated that a delegation of the Tem-  
pus and the Orange Free State was being pre-  
pared to visit the Colony. President and Stew-  
art to Commanders-in-Chief. This is doubtless  
another version of the telegram announcing that  
President Kruger had annexed the Free

State.

Col. Walker, C.M.G., the *Perak Pioneer*  
will act as Resident, Perak, while Mr.  
Rodger goes on leave and Mr. T. G. King, of the  
Resident's Branch of the Colonial Office, has  
been appointed Acting Resident.

Mr. Rodger is to go to the

Government.

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Auctioneers to the Government, and Slave  
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Street, and Praya Central.

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THE VICTORIA DISINFECTARY,  
Chlorinated Druggists, High-class Aerated  
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WATKINS, LTD. APOTHECARIES, HALL,  
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tions all colours; 18, Praya Central.

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Indian, Chinese and Japanese Silk Goods,  
Cushion Shawls, Spanish Wine and  
Manila Cigars; 12, D'Angelus Street.

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Opposite Kubo's Curio Store.

THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON  
WHARF AND GODOWN COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that an EXTRA-  
ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING  
of SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the  
Office of the Company, No. 9, Praya Central,  
on THURSDAY, the 12th April, 1900, at  
Noon, when the subjourned Resolution will be  
considered.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Capital of  
the Company will be increased by \$100,000 by  
issuing new Shares of \$10 each fully paid up.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Shareholders  
will be entitled to receive a Bonus of  
\$10 per share on the 1st day of April, 1900, to  
be paid in addition to the sum of \$10  
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per share paid up.

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## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

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(SUBJECT TO ALTERATION)

EMPEROR OF CHINA, Comdr. H. Archibald, R.N., WEDNESDAY, April 4th, 1900

EMPEROR OF INDIA, Comdr. O. F. Marshall, R.N., WEDNESDAY, 23rd April, 1900

EMPEROR OF JAPAN, Comdr. G. A. Lee, R.N., WEDNESDAY, 16th May, 1900

THE magnificient TWIN-SCREW STEAMSHIPS of this Line pass through the famous INLAND SEA OF JAPAN, and usually make their voyage YOKOHAMA to VICTORIA in 12 DAYS, and in THREE DAYS to a WEBSITE in the Trans-Pacific journey, making connection at Shanghai with the PALATIAL TRANS-CONTINENTAL TRAINS OF THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY, which leave daily, and connect with the ATLANTIC and PACIFIC TO THE "ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC OUT CHANCE". Close connection is made at Montreal, Quebec, New York, New Haven, Boston with all Trans-Atlantic Liners, which passengers to Great Britain and Ireland are given choice of

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